

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES

December 2, 2009

7:30 P.M.

Room 206, Town Hall

Chairman Hillman called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

Commission Members Present: Peter Hillman, Michael Tone, Susan Cameron, Pete Kenyon, Wynne Shapiro and Craig Flaherty

Staff Present: Richard Jacobson

Court Reporter: Bonnie Syat

Mr. Hillman called the first agenda item:

Amendment to EPC-06-2009, 31 Relihan Road, Shuk-Han and Wei Wong, requesting revisions to previously approved drainage plan.

Steve Jones, Landscape Architect represented the applicant. He said they have provided a revised drainage design by Rob. Frangione, Licensed Professional Engineer which relocates the detention basin to the rear of the property to address concerns of the neighbor.

Mr. Hillman asked if there were additional plantings proposed.

Mr. Jones said they were proposing the same area of wetland restoration from the original application. The area of the basin will still be in the lawn area outside of the wetland.

Mr. Tone asked what percentage of the property is proposed to be converted to natural area. Mr. Jones said approximately 30%. He said they are also proposing to remove pavement area and convert it to a more pervious surface.

Mr. Flaherty said that as a result of the new drainage and planting the wetland on the property will function better both hydrologically and ecologically.

Ms. Cameron made a motion to approve the amendment. Mr. Tone seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

Mr. Hillman called the next agenda item:

EPC-37-2009, 19 Holly Lane, Lance E. Zimmerman on behalf of Daniel and Jennifer Anderson, proposing house demolition and new house construction within an upland review area.

The Commission discussed the possible hiring of an engineer to review the project. The consensus was that there should be adequate time for all parties to review the engineering report before the public can be asked to comment. The Commission has the option of opening the public hearing in January and immediately continuing it if necessary to allow adequate review time. Staff will contact the applicant about the status of the engineering report.

Mr. Hillman called the next agenda item:

EPC-39-2009, 6 Overbrook Lane, Carly and Brent Hayes, proposing house addition and patio reconstruction within an upland review area.

Mr. Flaherty was recused for this application.

Dave LaPierre, Architect represented the applicant. He said the proposed terrace reconstruction will slightly reduce the impervious surface in the regulated area.

The Commission discussed activity within 100 feet of the pond on the Stony Brook. Mr. LaPierre said approximately 10 feet of the existing paved driveway is within the upland review area. The closest point of the existing terrace is 30 feet to the wetland. The proposed terrace will be slightly farther away.

The Commission will require the final plan to show the 100 foot upland review area.

Ms. Cameron made a motion to approve the application. Mr. Tone seconded the motion and it passed 5-0. Mr. Flaherty was recused.

Mr. Hillman called the next agenda item:

EPC-40-2009, 17 Holly Lane, Thomas Cornacchia, proposing pond dredging.

Gene Nazzaro, Contractor, represented the applicant. He said he dredged the pond approximately seven years ago and it has silted in over that time. He is also proposing to re-set boulders along the edge to prevent erosion. He said the original plantings designed by Stearns & Wheeler will be installed.

Mr. Flaherty and Mr. Nazzaro discussed the location of the pumps and dirt bag barrier and the need to monitor the area below the bags for signs of erosion.

Mr. Flaherty listed the following proposed conditions of approval: monitor the area downstream of the dirt bags for signs of erosion; the dewatering site shall be stabilized and restored after dredging; a physical barrier to be provided to protect the wetland plantings; a more detailed planting plan showing plant locations; and a bond of \$3,000 for two growing seasons to insure survival of the plants with ½ available for release after the first season.

Mr. Tone asked if the dam is stable. Mr. Nazzaro said it is. They will keep the excavation at least ten to fifteen feet away from the face of the dam and do any necessary invasive plant removal around the dam by hand.

Mr. Tone asked if there was anything in the proposal that is inconsistent with the Milone & MacBroom report. Mr. Flaherty said the M&M report noted dams between Middlesex and West Ave. for removal. There is nothing in the proposed dredging plan that is inconsistent with M&M's recommendations.

Mr. Flaherty made a motion to approve the application with the above conditions. Mr. Tone seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

Mr. Hillman called the next agenda item:

EPC-41-2009, 7 Andrews Drive, James Wise, proposing retaining walls and driveway reconstruction within an upland review area.

Robert Sherwood, Landscape Architect represented the applicant. He said the property is a 1.5 acre parcel bisected by the Goodwives River. He provided a computer generated photo of the proposed wall construction and driveway reconstruction. There will be a reduction in pavement and a small net increase in impervious coverage from the porch construction.

Mr. Flaherty said there will be a reduction in the slope which will have the effect of slowing runoff and offset the small increase in impervious surface.

Ms. Shapiro asked about the existing ponding condition in the driveway. Mr. Sherwood said the proposed curb drops are intended to disperse the flow to help correct the driveway ponding.

Ms. Shapiro made a motion to approve the application. Ms. Cameron seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

Mr. Hillman called the next agenda item:

EPC-42-2009, Tokeneke Road between Driftway Lane and Pheasant Run, Town of Darien
Department of Public Works, proposing replacement of sanitary sewer by horizontal directional drilling within an upland review area.

Darren Oustafine, P.E., Assistant director of the DPW and Todd Ritchie, P.E., Stearns & Wheler represented the applicant.

Mr. Oustafine described the ongoing problems with the section of ductile iron pipe in Tokeneke Road corroding for unknown reasons. The proposal is to install PVC pipe in that section by directional drilling.

Mr. Ritchie described the process of construction and new pipe installation which will replace the existing pipe under Tokeneke Brook and will avoid the need to excavate the brook. The excavation proposed is within the existing road and is limited to the beginning and end points of the drilling. All slurry material from the drilling will be removed in containers.

The Commission members discussed the construction process and were satisfied that there are adequate precautions to prevent discharge and pollution of the adjacent wetland.

Mr. Hillman made a motion to approve the application. Ms. Cameron seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

Minutes of previous meeting: November 4, 2009

Mr. Kenyon made a motion to approve the minutes of November 4, 2009 as amended. Mr. Tone seconded the motion and it passed 5-0. Ms. Cameron abstained.

Mr. Kenyon made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Cameron seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard B. Jacobson
Environmental Protection Officer